

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01925 231504Z
ACTION NEA-10

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NEA/IRN FOR AMB SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: XGDS
TAGS: PARM TECH IR
SUBJ: US IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

REF: VIENNA 1710

1. AS YOU WILL SEE FROM REFTEL, FORMULATION AND APPLICATION OF MOST FAVORED NATION (MFN) LANGUAGE APPEARS TO BE ONLY UNRESOLVED OBSTACLE TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF OUR NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH IRAN. SOMEWHAT TO MY SURPRISE, MANZOUR HAS SUGGESTED LANGUAGE (PARA 7, REFTEL) WHICH INDICATES A GOI WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT A LIMITED APPLICATION OF THE MFN CONCEPT. ASSUME HE WOULD NOT HAVE DONE SO WITHOUT EXPLICIT AUTHORITY FROM HIGHER UP. BALANCE OF MESSAGE, HOWEVER, IMPLIES THAT WE STILL HAVE A PROBLEM EVEN WITH THIS COMPROMISE PROPOSAL, BUT IT UNCLEAR PRECISELY WHAT IT IS. IF WE ANTICIPATE THE POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH WE WOULD BE UNWILLING TO EXTEND TO IRAN HIDING BEHIND OUR FORMULATION OF "UNDER COMPARABLE CIRCUMSTANCES" (PARA 2, REFTEL), THEN IT SEEMS THAT WE ARE NOT MEETING THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE SHAH. IF THIS IS OUR INTENTION I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 01925 231504Z

DISCERN WHAT WE THINK OUR PROBLEM IS WITH IRANIAN FORMULATION AS AMENDED BY MANZOUR. I HAVE NO USEFUL INSIGHTS AS TO WHAT WE MAY BELIEVE TO BE A DILEMMA OR HOW IT MIGHT BE DEALT WITH BUT HOPE YOU CAN OVERSEE ITS RESOLUTION WHILE YOU ARE IN WASHINGTON. FROM WHAT WE HAVE BEEN TOLD PREVIOUSLY, AND WHAT JAMSHID AMOUZEGAR MENTIONED IN PASSING TO ME YESTERDAY ABOUT IRAN'S

NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, I SENSE THAT
WHAT GOI WANTS IS A CLEAR SHOT AT GOING FOR FAST
BREEDER REACTORS IF NOTHING ELSE TURNS UP BY 1985.
SINCE THIS PRESUMABLY DOES VIOLENCE TO OUR
STRATEGY OF LIMITING DANGERS OF PROLIFERATION, THERIN
MAY LIE THE DILEMMA.

2. THE PROCEDURES MANZOUR SUGGESTS, ASSUMING WE ARE
ABLE TO GET PAST THE MFN HURDLE, SUGGESTS THAT THERE IS
NO REPEAT NO POSSIBILITY OF OUR BEING ABLE TO SIGN AN
AGREEMENT ON FEB 28. I AM RELUCTANT TO EXPLORE
POSSIBLE SHORTCUTS HOWEVER UNTIL WE HAVE A
BETTER PICTURE OF WHETHER IT IS WORTH THE EFFORT.

MIKLOS

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